

Reoffense Rates



Bell Ellis Cottage at Beaumont JCC, which DJJ plans to use as transitional housing for juveniles soon to be released back to the community

Measuring Reoffense Rates

Recidivism, or reoffending, is an important concept for juvenile and adult criminal justice systems because it provides a measure of outcome success. In terms of public awareness, this concept is usually the primary measure of interest when evaluating program effectiveness. Use of a standardized measure of recidivism allows evaluation across different types of programs and facilitates comparison to program outcomes from other states.

While there are many studies on offender recidivism, comparison of results is often difficult because the evaluation methodologies used vary widely. Definitions of recidivism differ from study to study. Characteristics of the juveniles studied may not be adequately identified. These issues, as well as others surrounding reoffense analysis, were discussed in DJJ's research quarterly on juvenile recidivism in Virginia (available on the DJJ website at www.djj.virginia.gov/Resources/DJJ_Publications/ResearchQuarterlies.aspx).

METHODS FOR STUDYING REOFFENDING

One of the methods used to evaluate reoffending is the longitudinal cohort study. A cohort is simply a group of individuals who share some common characteristic, such as release from incarceration during a specific year. This method may use the entire population of interest or a sample from that population. The chosen cohort is then followed over a period of time so that any trends for that group may be identified. For reoffense rates, a cohort is tracked for a specific follow-up period and any reoffenses are counted.

Most recidivism studies use the longitudinal cohort method, including the Florida Department of Corrections report on adult recidivism (2003) and Virginia's annual evaluations of juvenile reoffending (see previous *Data Resource Guides*). This method provides a better picture of long-term trends and allows public safety agencies to see patterns in offending.

The diagram shows a typical path for a longitudinal cohort analysis. First, the cohort is chosen (for example, all juveniles released from JCCs during FY 2006). At the end of a specified follow-up period (for this example, 12 months after release) all instances of reoffending are identified. The cohort is then divided into two groups – those who did and those who did not reoffend.

DEFINITIONS OF REOFFENDING

The American Correctional Association (ACA) has stated that the definition of recidivism is one of the primary issues for juvenile and adult correctional organizations. According to the ACA, "...there are numerous ways to measure recidivism...[d]epending on what perspective is taken, statistical outcomes may vary."

There are three commonly accepted definitions used to measure reoffending:

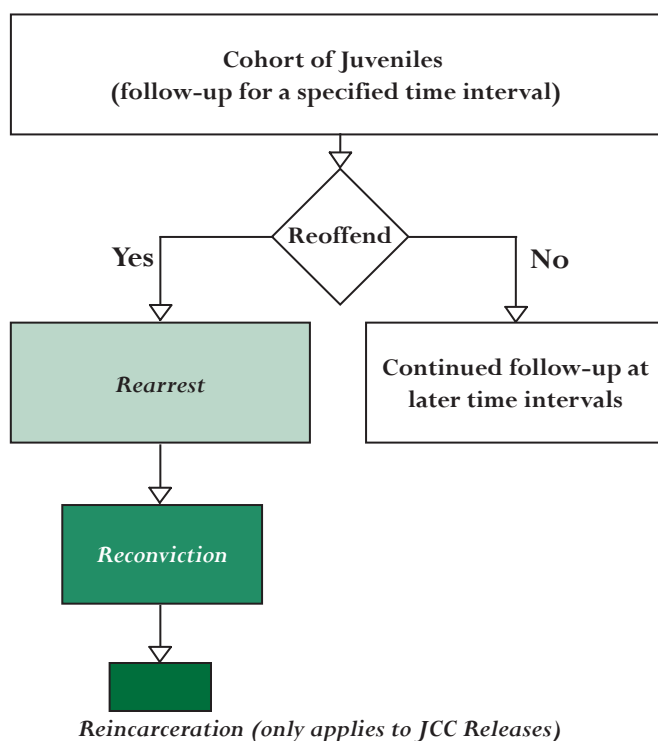
- *Rearrest* refers to a petitioned juvenile complaint for a new criminal offense made at intake or an adult arrest for a new criminal offense. Rearrest is an important measure of reoffending because it represents the initial official contact with the criminal justice system. Uses of

rearrest rates are limited as a gauge of reoffending because rearrest measures police activity, and juveniles may be rearrested for offenses they did not actually commit.

- *Reconviction* refers to a guilty adjudication for a delinquent or criminal offense. This measure represents a more stringent way to measure reoffending. Because reconviction rates are based on the final disposition for an offense, only cases with an admission of guilt or a court adjudication of guilty are counted. Only reconviction meets the definition of recidivism used by DJJ.
- *Reincarceration* refers to a return to incarceration (after having been previously released from incarceration in a juvenile or adult facility) subsequent to rearrest and reconviction on a new criminal offense. This measure indicates that the new offense is serious enough to warrant a return to incarceration.

A report on offender risk assessment in Virginia (Ostrom et al., 2002) emphasized that the way recidivism is defined influences the interpretation of study results. According to their report, there are strengths and weaknesses associated with each measure of recidivism. Use of rearrest as a measure of recidivism has the advantage of not being influenced by court proceedings (offense reduction, plea bargaining, diversion) but may overestimate the level of reoffending because arrest criteria are less stringent

REOFFENSE ANALYSIS FOR JUVENILES RELEASED/ PLACED ON PROBATION IN A GIVEN FISCAL YEAR



than conviction criteria. Rearrest rates represent the *maximum* rate for reoffending as captured in official records.

Use of reconviction as a measure of recidivism lessens the likelihood of overinflating reoffending rates. It should be noted that time to reconviction is best measured as the “number of days until a new arrest for which the offender will be subsequently convicted,” so that any discrepancies in court procedures will not influence the measurement of time to reoffense. Therefore, reconvictions represent a subset of rearrests.

Reincarceration rates offer the most stringent measure of reoffending. Juveniles recommitted to a JCC or sentenced to an adult facility have been considered by a judge to have committed offenses serious enough to justify return to a correctional facility. The measure represents a further subset of rearrests – reoffending that has been adjudicated guilty and resulted in reentry into a juvenile correctional facility or sentence for incarceration into an adult facility.

ISSUES WITH THE STUDY OF REOFFENDING

Ostrom et al. (2002) note that studies of reoffending (recidivism) differ in terms of the length of time used for follow-up. Length of follow-up in these studies has ranged anywhere from three months to five years. Most studies use a one year follow-up period to assess reoffending. While reoffending rates are often highest within the first year after release or judicial action, the limitation of follow-up to one year does not allow for a comprehensive analysis of reoffending patterns. Studies of reoffending should use longer follow-up periods in order to get a better idea of the recidivism process. Ostrom et al. (2002) recommend the use of a follow-up period of at least one to three years.

There are other issues relevant to the examination of reoffending, particularly for juveniles. First, most studies have focused on offenders who have been released from correctional centers. Focusing on this group limits the understanding of reoffending rates because it does not allow for examination of all individuals who have contact with the justice system and eliminates the possibility of comparison between individuals who have been incarcerated in secure facilities versus individuals who may have been sent to diversion programs or placed on probation.

Also, few studies have tracked offenses through both the juvenile and adult justice systems. A complete examination of juvenile reoffending is not possible unless all juvenile and adult contacts with the justice system are included.

Additionally, studies of reoffending should include information on gender and age differences when presenting reoffense data, particularly evaluations of juvenile reoffending. There are well documented normal developmental differences between males and females, as well as juveniles in early adolescence versus late adolescence. Therefore, reoffending patterns should not be

assumed to be the same for all juveniles. For example, a 2002 study by DJJ found that female offenders admitted to JCCs were more likely than male offenders to have been admitted for a non-felony. A study by Oregon (2004) on juvenile recidivism found that juveniles ages 13-16 were most likely to reoffend within the Oregon juvenile justice system.

DJJ'S STUDY OF JUVENILE REOFFENDING

Data on juvenile offenders in Virginia are contained in the DJJ Juvenile Tracking System (JTS). The JTS contains information on juvenile intakes, detention placements, commitments to JCCs or other incarceration alternatives, and probation placements for all localities within Virginia. This information allows for the examination of juvenile reoffending patterns in a standardized way. DJJ also obtains statewide adult arrest and conviction information from the Virginia State Police and the Virginia Sentencing Commission. In addition, DJJ acquires information on subsequent incarcerations from the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the State Compensation Board. Information from these sources enables the study of statewide juvenile reoffending patterns with long-term follow-up periods.

Juvenile reoffending patterns for FY 2001 through FY 2006 were examined for this *Data Resource Guide*. Juvenile and adult arrest data on juveniles released from Virginia JCCs or placed on probation during these years were examined. The follow-up period ranged from a minimum of one year to a maximum of three years, depending on the date the juvenile was released or placed. Demographic information for reoffenses was also included.

Although all three measures of reoffending were included in this *Data Resource Guide*, it is important to note that the official DJJ recidivism definition is based on measures of reconviction. In February 2000, the Director of the Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice issued an administrative directive (07-710) that established an official definition for recidivism to be used by the Department (this directive was updated in December 2004).

For the purposes of reporting recidivism rates of juveniles as required by Code of Virginia §2.2-222, the Department will use the following definition:

A recidivist is a person who is found by a court to have committed, after being (a) placed on probation or (b) released from confinement, a delinquent or criminal act other than violation of probation or parole.

As the recidivism definition currently stands, all instances of petitioned delinquent intakes and adult arrests for criminal activity (for which a juvenile has been adjudicated guilty) that occur after a juvenile is released from a JCC or is placed on probation are collected by DJJ. Technical violations are not included in this definition of reoffending. Tracking information on *all* subsequent offenses provides a better measure of reoffending than simply gathering information from the juvenile justice system alone.

Reoffense Rates for JCC Releases and Probation Placements

Reoffense data were examined for FY 2001 through FY 2006 for the following cohorts:

- **JCC Releases** – all juveniles released from juvenile correctional centers;
- **Probation Placements** – juveniles placed on probation for the first time (the **entire** population was used for FY 2002 through FY 2006; randomly selected, representative samples were used for FY 2001);
- **Juveniles in DJJ Programs** – all juveniles who were in various treatment programs (including juveniles served by VJCCCA) or incarceration alternatives (including post-dispositional detention programs) between FY 2004 and FY 2006.

Tables on the next few pages include the following data:

- **Rearrest rates** are presented from FY 2001 to FY 2006, for both JCC Releases and Probation Placement cohorts;
- **Reconviction rates** are presented for FY 2001- FY 2005 for both JCC Release and Probation Placement cohorts;
- **Reincarceration rates** are presented for FY 2002 through FY 2005 JCC Releases. These rates represent recommitment back into a JCC, incarceration in a penitentiary (not including blended sentences), or a jail sentence imposed by a judge. Data on any commitment to a JCC or an adult incarceration are also included for the post-dispositional detention program cohorts.

Reoffense data did not include the following offenses: violation of probation or parole, contempt of court, failure to appear, noncriminal domestic relations/child welfare complaints, or non-criminal traffic violations. Also, only petitioned delinquent intakes were used for the analysis.

When the length of time to rearrest or reconviction is reported, it indicates the time between the date the juvenile was released from a JCC or placed on probation, and the date of a new arrest. For reincarceration length of time, the difference between the release date from a JCC and the reincarceration date was used.

There is a slight discrepancy between the total number of JCC Releases/Probation Placements in the reoffense analysis when compared with the total number of juveniles released from the JCCs or placed on probation reported in other sections of this *Data Resource Guide*. This slight discrepancy is due to the following methodological criteria used to establish the cohorts:

- Probation Placement cohorts did not include those few juveniles with missing date of birth data. This information is required to match cases in different state data systems (such as the DJJ JTS and the Virginia Criminal Information Network used by the Virginia State Police).
- Juveniles released from the JCCs under the following conditions were not included in the reoffense analysis: juveniles placed into RDC pre-dispositionally but not committed to the JCCs, juveniles sent directly to DOC upon release from the JCCs, or juveniles released from the JCCs on appeal (these juveniles were included in the analysis for any *subsequent* admissions and releases once the appeal process was completed and the juveniles were found guilty).

The numbers presented in this section have changed from previous *Data Resource Guides* due to more comprehensive information obtained from other agencies.

TWELVE-MONTH REOFFENSE RATES, FY 2001-2006

	JCC Releases						Probation Placements					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Rearrest	49.7%	52.3%	49.6%	52.1%	49.5%	43.0%	36.5%	36.0%	34.9%	35.7%	35.7%	36.2%
Reconviction	41.0%	43.6%	40.5%	41.7%	36.7%	N/A	26.0%	26.5%	25.8%	25.9%	26.6%	N/A
Reincarceration	N/A*	29.4%	26.7%	28.7%	25.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

*Due to methodological changes, 2001 rates are unavailable

- Recidivism rates for FY 2005 (defined as reconviction rates by DJJ) at 12-months were:
 - 36.7% for juveniles released from the JCCs;
 - 26.6% for juveniles placed on probation.
- JCC Releases had higher 12-month rearrest rates than Probation Placements between FY 2001 and FY 2006 and higher 12-month reconviction rates between FY 2001 and FY 2005.
- The following reoffending patterns were noted at 12-months comparing FY 2004 and FY 2005:
 - For JCC Releases, all reoffense rates decreased.
 - For Probation Placements, the reconviction rate increased slightly.

REARREST RATES, FY 2001-2006

Time to Reoffense	JCC Releases						Probation Placements					
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
3 months	14.9%	15.2%	13.3%	16.4%	14.4%	13.7%	14.3%	14.8%	13.6%	14.5%	14.1%	13.9%
6 months	31.2%	30.3%	29.3%	31.9%	29.5%	25.9%	23.6%	23.9%	21.9%	23.4%	22.9%	23.2%
12 months	49.7%	52.3%	49.6%	52.1%	49.5%	43.0%	36.5%	36.0%	34.9%	35.7%	35.7%	36.2%
24 months	68.5%	70.5%	69.4%	70.8%	67.8%	N/A	50.6%	51.1%	49.8%	50.3%	50.6%	N/A
36 months	76.1%	78.3%	76.6%	79.1%	N/A	N/A	59.8%	59.9%	58.8%	58.8%	N/A	N/A

As mentioned earlier, DJJ does not use rearrest rates for the official definition for recidivism. Examining rearrest rates is helpful, however, because these rates reflect the level of additional official contact juveniles have with the justice system after release or placement. Also, analysis of rearrest allows for comparison to other studies that use rearrest as their measure of recidivism. Evaluation of rearrest rates provides a sense of the *maximum rate* of known reoffending that occurs over time.

- Rearrest rates for Probation Placements have been consistently lower than rearrest rates for JCC Releases since FY 2001 (with the exception of the 3-month rearrest rates in FY 2003 and FY 2006.)
- The 12-month rearrest rate for JCC Releases decreased from 52.1% in FY 2004 to 49.5% in FY 2005 and then further to 43.0% in FY 2006. For Probation Placements, the 12-month rearrest rate increased slightly between FY 2005 and FY 2006.
- Rearrest rates by time to reoffense are listed in the table above.
 - For JCC Releases, the rearrest rates between FY 2001 and FY 2006 were relatively stable with the difference in yearly rates ranging between 2% and 4%. The only exception was a 6.5% decrease at the 12-month interval between FY 2005 and FY 2006.
 - Much like JCC Releases, the rearrest rates for Probation Placements also remained relatively stable between FY 2001 and FY 2006. Again, the variation between yearly rates was minimal, ranging between 1% and 3%.
- Of the successfully diverted intakes in FY 2006, 22% were rearrested within 12-months for a new offense (unrelated to the one for which they were diverted) compared to 19% in FY 2005.

TWELVE-MONTH REARREST RATES BY SEX, RACE, AND AGE, FY 2006*

Demographics	JCC Releases			Probation Placements		
	Total	Rearrests		Total	Rearrests	
Sex						
Male	796	355	44.6%	5,426	2,168	40.0%
Female	77	20	26.0%	1,811	455	25.1%
Race						
Black	553	265	47.9%	3,312	1,429	43.1%
White	270	96	35.6%	3,178	975	30.7%
Hispanic	32	10	31.3%	511	147	28.8%
Other	18	4	22.2%	236	72	30.5%
Age						
Under 12	0	0	0.0%	57	18	31.6%
12	0	0	0.0%	197	79	40.1%
13	5	3	60.0%	567	208	36.7%
14	26	12	46.2%	1,014	393	38.8%
15	73	33	45.2%	1,542	590	38.3%
16	147	59	40.1%	1,853	655	35.3%
17	266	124	46.6%	1,788	611	34.2%
18 or older	356	144	40.4%	219	69	31.5%
Total	873	375	43.0%	7,237	2,623	36.2%

Demographic data for 12-month rearrest rates for JCC Releases and Probation Placements are presented in the table on the left.

- Males had higher rearrest rates than females for both JCC Releases and Probation Placements.
- Black juveniles had higher rearrest rates for both JCC Releases and Probation Placements.
- Some age groups comprise a small percentage of releases. Therefore, the rearrest of only a few juveniles can strongly influence the rates. It is important to consider this when looking at the percentages for each specific age group.

*Total number of JCC Releases and Probation Placements reported in this section differ from total numbers reported in other sections. Please refer to the Page 183 for an explanation of these slight variations.

RECONVICTION RATES, FY 2001-2005

Time to Reoffense	JCC Releases					Probation Placements				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
3 months	11.0%	11.2%	9.9%	12.3%	10.1%	9.3%	10.1%	9.5%	10.1%	9.5%
6 months	24.6%	22.9%	22.8%	24.7%	21.5%	16.1%	16.5%	15.9%	16.6%	16.3%
12 months	41.0%	43.6%	40.5%	41.7%	36.7%	26.0%	26.5%	25.8%	25.9%	26.6%
24 months	60.4%	61.5%	59.1%	60.9%	N/A	39.3%	40.1%	38.4%	38.1%	N/A
36 months	68.9%	70.1%	67.2%	N/A	N/A	47.7%	48.2%	46.3%	N/A	N/A

DJJ's official definition of recidivism requires a new conviction. This rate is preferred because it considers the final adjudication of guilt, rather than level of arrest activity. Only offenses for which there has been a clear final disposition of guilt are counted as reconvictions. Reconviction rates will increase slightly when reexamined next year because of updated final case dispositions.

- Reconviiction rates for Probation Placements have been consistently lower than the reconviiction rates for JCC Releases.
- The 12-month reconviiction rate for JCC Releases decreased 5.0% from FY 2004 to FY 2005. For Probation Placements, the 12-month reconviiction rate has remained stable over the past five fiscal years.
- Reconviiction rates by time to reoffense are listed in the table above.
 - Reconviiction rates for JCC Releases remained relatively stable, varying by only 1% to 4%, between FY 2001 and FY 2004. The 3-, 6-, and 12-month reconviiction rates all decreased from FY 2004 to FY 2005.
 - For Probation Placements, the reconviiction rate also showed little fluctuation over the past five fiscal years. Between FY 2001 and FY 2005 Probation Placement reconviiction rates only varied, in most instances, by less than one percent.

TWELVE-MONTH RECONVICTION RATES BY SEX, RACE, AND AGE, FY 2005*

Demographics	JCC Releases			Probation Placements		
	Total	Reconvictions		Total	Reconvictions	
Sex						
Male	846	322	38.1%	5,461	1,636	30.0%
Female	91	22	24.2%	1,932	332	17.2%
Race						
Black	608	244	40.1%	3,178	1,030	32.4%
White	283	87	30.7%	3,478	775	22.3%
Hispanic	33	8	24.2%	528	125	23.7%
Other	13	5	38.5%	209	38	18.2%
Age						
Under 12	0	0	0.0%	100	13	13.0%
12	0	0	0.0%	228	48	21.1%
13	10	4	40.0%	605	171	28.3%
14	23	11	47.8%	1,136	344	30.3%
15	69	30	43.5%	1,556	468	30.1%
16	197	71	36.0%	1,833	465	25.4%
17	274	103	37.6%	1,707	411	24.1%
18 or older	364	125	34.3%	228	48	21.1%
Total	937	344	36.7%	7,393	1,968	26.6%

Demographic data for 12-month reconviiction rates for JCC Releases and Probation Placements are presented in the table on the left.

- Males had higher reconviiction rates than females for both JCC Releases and Probation Placements.
- Black juveniles had the highest reconviiction rates for both JCC Releases and Probation Placements.
- Some age groups comprise a small percentage of releases. Therefore, the reconviiction of only a few juveniles can strongly influence the rates. It is important to consider this when looking at the percentages for each specific age group.

*Total number of JCC Releases and Probation Placements reported in this section differ from total numbers reported in other sections. Please refer to the Page 183 for an explanation of these slight variations.

REINCARCERATION RATES, FY 2002-2005

DJJ tracks both juvenile and adult reincarceration. Reincarceration rates are based on any new commitment to a JCC, DOC, or a sentence for time in a local jail. The addition of adult reincarceration data allows for a complete comparison of reoffense rates for all former DJJ residents, from rearrest to possible reincarceration. The inclusion of adult incarceration information, for both the prisons and jails, is especially useful because DJJ retains custody of some wards until age 21.

Reincarceration rates presented in this *Data Resource Guide* may differ from rates presented in previous years because of updated information obtained from DOC and from the Virginia Compensation Board (local jail sentence information) for FY 2002 through FY 2005 JCC Releases.

Time to Reoffense	JCC Releases			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
3 months	3.7%	3.0%	4.1%	3.5%
6 months	11.4%	11.6%	12.8%	11.2%
12 months	29.4%	26.7%	28.7%	25.6%
24 months	50.0%	47.7%	50.8%	N/A
36 months	60.8%	58.8%	N/A	N/A

Due to methodological changes, 2001 rates are unavailable

- Reincarceration rates remained relatively stable for most follow-up intervals between FY 2002 and FY 2005.
- The percent of JCC Releases recommitted to the JCCs within 12-months of release decreased from 7.8% in FY 2002 to 6.4% in FY 2005. The remaining reincarcerations were into adult facilities.

TWELVE-MONTH REINCARCERATION RATES BY SEX, RACE, AND AGE, FY 2005*

Demographic data for 12-month reincarceration rates for JCC Releases are presented in the table below.

- Males had higher reincarceration rates than females.
- Black juveniles had the highest reincarceration rates.
- Reincarceration rates were highest for juveniles who were age 17 or older at the time of their release from the JCCs.
 - Approximately one percent (10 juveniles) were age 13 or younger when they were released from the JCCs in FY 2005. Because this number is small, the reincarceration of only a few juveniles strongly influences the rate.

Demographics	JCC Releases		
	Total	Reincarcerations	
Sex			
Male	846	229	27.1%
Female	91	11	12.1%
Race			
Black	608	175	28.8%
White	283	58	20.5%
Hispanic	33	4	12.1%
Other	13	3	23.1%
Age			
Under 12	0	0	0.0%
12	0	0	0.0%
13	10	3	30.0%
14	23	5	21.7%
15	69	16	23.2%
16	197	34	17.3%
17	274	78	28.5%
18 or older	364	104	28.6%
Total	937	240	25.6%



*Total number of JCC Releases and Probation Placements reported in this section differ from total numbers reported in other sections. Please refer to the Page 183 for an explanation of these slight variations.

TWELVE-MONTH REARREST AND RECONVICTION RATES BY COURT DISTRICT*

CSU	JCC Releases				Probation Placements			
	FY 2006		FY 2005		FY 2006		FY 2005	
	Total Cases	Rearrest	Total Cases	Reconviction	Total Cases	Rearrest	Total Cases	Reconviction
1	20	25.0%	22	31.8%	284	42.3%	272	33.5%
2	53	37.7%	55	30.9%	312	40.7%	328	30.2%
02A	14	28.6%	16	12.5%	102	23.5%	67	19.4%
3	21	52.4%	31	35.5%	133	43.6%	158	28.5%
4	78	43.6%	67	41.8%	260	45.4%	314	36.6%
5	28	39.3%	33	45.5%	133	34.6%	132	31.1%
6	19	52.6%	16	43.8%	68	42.6%	84	48.8%
7	49	61.2%	69	33.3%	307	46.3%	214	30.4%
8	29	37.9%	35	34.3%	107	55.1%	104	23.1%
9	18	27.8%	25	16.0%	100	47.0%	107	34.6%
10	9	22.2%	16	31.3%	131	35.9%	155	22.6%
11	39	43.6%	32	34.4%	111	52.3%	122	36.1%
12	43	48.8%	32	50.0%	142	45.1%	149	44.3%
13	90	57.8%	74	47.3%	293	51.5%	260	39.6%
14	18	33.3%	26	42.3%	335	32.2%	346	32.4%
15	75	48.0%	79	35.4%	427	35.8%	372	31.7%
16	26	34.6%	42	45.2%	320	36.6%	321	23.4%
17	19	21.1%	20	20.0%	245	20.4%	237	9.7%
17F	0	0.0%	2	0.0%	17	35.3%	11	18.2%
18	12	58.3%	15	33.3%	170	31.2%	153	24.2%
19	26	26.9%	27	37.0%	946	29.5%	1,018	22.3%
20L	8	37.5%	2	0.0%	103	35.0%	70	32.9%
20W	4	25.0%	5	40.0%	89	24.7%	118	21.2%
21	8	50.0%	11	63.6%	193	32.6%	191	25.7%
22	37	32.4%	33	24.2%	128	25.8%	159	23.9%
23	4	50.0%	4	75.0%	49	42.9%	32	18.8%
23A	11	63.6%	9	55.6%	88	60.2%	64	31.3%
24	30	40.0%	41	39.0%	281	35.9%	276	23.9%
25	17	35.3%	21	33.3%	107	45.8%	144	30.6%
26	19	15.8%	22	40.9%	160	38.8%	168	33.9%
27	12	33.3%	6	33.3%	193	30.6%	265	19.2%
28	1	0.0%	2	0.0%	131	31.3%	113	20.4%
29	1	0.0%	10	10.0%	167	25.7%	172	16.3%
30	6	66.7%	7	57.1%	190	24.7%	233	15.5%
31	29	51.7%	30	33.3%	415	33.0%	464	19.2%
Total	873	43.0%	937	36.7%	7,237	36.2%	7,393	26.6%

The CSU District is identified by the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court that originally committed the juvenile to the Department or placed the juvenile on probation.

*Total number of JCC Releases and Probation Placements reported in this section differ from total numbers reported in other sections. Please refer to the Page 183 for an explanation of these slight variations.

TWELVE-MONTH REOFFENSE RATES FOR JCC RELEASES AND PROBATION PLACEMENTS BY RISK LEVEL

Risk Level	JCC Releases			Probation Placements	
	FY 2006 Rearrest	FY2005 Reconviction	FY2005 Reincarceration	FY 2006 Rearrest	FY2005 Reconviction
Low**	7.7%	20.8%	10.4%	25.0%	15.5%
Moderate	37.5%	36.2%	25.9%	39.4%	28.1%
High	51.0%	39.0%	27.1%	52.7%	39.4%

**There were a small number of juveniles with a low risk level.

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice Risk Assessment Instrument (see Appendix H) is completed by CSU staff to determine a juvenile's relative risk of reoffending. The risk assessment instrument classifies reoffense risk as low, moderate, or high. The risk assessment is completed as part of a social history report, and is therefore not completed for all juveniles. A juvenile's risk assessment score is one of the factors examined when parole supervision level is established. Juveniles with high risk assessment scores usually receive higher levels of parole supervision when first released from the JCCs.

The table above presents the reoffense rates for JCC Releases and Probation Placements with completed risk assessment scores. For both JCC Releases and Probation Placements, juveniles with low risk levels had the lowest reoffense rates and juveniles with high risk levels had the highest reoffense rates. These rates are consistent with probable reoffense risk (according to risk score levels). In FY 2005, 5% of JCC Releases and 13% of Probation Placements were missing risk assessment scores and in FY 2006, 7% of JCC releases and 11% of Probation Placements were missing scores.

- JCC Releases had somewhat higher reconviction rates than Probation Placements at the low risk level.
- For the moderate risk level, reconviction rates for JCC Releases were higher than the rates for Probation Placements.
- Rearrest and reconviction rates at the high risk level were similar for both the JCC Releases and the Probation Placements.
- When looking at the various risk levels in reference to reoffense data, the rates show that the Risk Assessment Instrument is accurately classifying juveniles with regard to their risk of reoffense.

REARREST RATE COMPARISON FOR JUVENILES PLACED IN VJCCCA PROGRAMS, FY 2004-2006*

Time to Rearrest	VJCCCA Placements			Probation Placements			JCC Releases		
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
3 months	16.7%	17.3%	15.8%	14.5%	14.1%	13.9%	16.4%	14.4%	13.7%
6 months	24.9%	26.0%	24.2%	23.4%	22.9%	23.2%	31.9%	29.5%	25.9%
12 months	36.1%	37.7%	35.5%	35.7%	35.7%	36.2%	52.1%	49.5%	43.0%
Total Juveniles	12,851	12,862	12,390	7,662	7,393	7,237	1,089	937	873

VJCCCA programs serve thousands of juveniles each year, with a variety of programs in each locality. One of the outcome measures chosen for the evaluation of VJCCCA programs is rearrest (defined as a new petitioned intake or adult arrest). The rearrest rates at 3-, 6-, and 12-month follow-up intervals for juveniles who were placed in VJCCCA programs are provided in the table above. For comparative purposes, the rearrest rates for Probation Placements and JCC Releases for these years are also listed.

- The rearrest rates at the 3-, 6-, and 12-month follow-up intervals remained relatively stable for the VJCCCA Placements and Probation Placements while JCC Releases have decreased steadily at each interval.
- For FY 2004 through FY 2006, VJCCCA Placements had the highest 3-month rearrest rates when compared to JCC Releases and Probation Placements. The 6- and 12-month rearrest rates for VJCCCA Placements were lower than the rearrest rates for JCC Releases. The 6- and 12-month rearrest rates for VJCCCA Placements were higher than the rates for Probation Placements with the exception of the 12-month rearrest rate in FY 2006, which was slightly lower.

*Total number of JCC Releases and Probation Placements reported in this section differ from total numbers reported in other sections. Please refer to the Page 183 for an explanation of these slight variations.

TWELVE-MONTH REOFFENSE RATES FOR AGENCY PROGRAMS AND COMMITMENT ALTERNATIVES

	Rearrest			Reconviction		Reincarceration	
	2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2004	2005
Substance Abuse Treatment Need	53.6%	51.0%	44.8%	42.4%	37.7%	29.3%	26.2%
Sex Offender Treatment Need	36.7%	31.7%	21.5%	27.6%	22.8%	24.5%	17.8%
Youth Industries	34.1%	32.7%	30.8%	14.6%	26.9%	9.8%	21.2%
Hanover JROTC	15.2%	35.5%	20.5%	15.2%	35.5%	12.1%	25.8%
RSAT Program	20.0%	17.9%	13.0%	10.0%	14.3%	3.3%	3.6%
Virginia Wilderness Institute	40.5%	32.4%	28.2%	31.0%	27.0%	21.4%	18.9%
Halfway Houses	42.4%	45.3%	34.8%	33.7%	28.0%	26.1%	22.7%
Apartment Living Program	48.3%	45.2%	48.3%	41.4%	35.5%	34.5%	29.0%
Post-D Detention (with programs)	42.9%	46.6%	49.6%	33.9%	35.7%	17.5%	15.9%

Many juveniles committed to DJJ participate in programs designed to meet their treatment needs. There are also various programmatic opportunities to assist in the successful return of these committed juveniles to the community. Not all those who are adjudicated guilty are placed in the JCCs, however. There are commitment alternatives available to judges for placement of juveniles who may be better served in non-JCC residential facilities. The table above presents the 12-month reoffense rates for juveniles in these programs who were released from the JCCs or post-dispositional detention programs between FY 2004 to FY 2006.

The table is not intended to provoke a comparison between the different programs – these programs often serve vastly different groups of juveniles with varying offense histories, treatment needs, and skills. Also, some programs serve a small number of youth each year – in such instances the reoffenses of only a few juveniles may result in a seemingly “high” overall reoffense rate. The information in this table may be useful as DJJ evaluates these programs and commitment alternatives over time. Also, these data may serve as a source of comparison for similar programs in other states. It should be noted that all programs in the table *except post-dispositional detention* are subsets of the overall JCC population; no comparisons are made between program reoffense rates and the overall JCC release rates for that reason.

Substance Abuse Treatment Need – all reoffense rates decreased between the time periods reported.

Sex Offender Treatment Need – all reoffense rates decreased between the time periods reported.

Youth Industries Programs – rearrest rates decreased between the time periods reported, while reconviction and reincarceration rates increased.

Hanover JCC Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) – Reoffense rates increased between FY 2004 and FY 2005. Subsequently, rearrest decreased between FY 2005 and FY 2006.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program – between FY 2004 and FY 2005 reconviction and reincarceration rates increased. The RSAT program only serves females in the JCCs (see pages 184 -186 for the reoffense rates for female JCC Releases).

Virginia Wilderness Institute (VWI) – all reoffense rates decreased over the fiscal years examined.

Halfway Houses – with the exception of rearrest rates from FY 2004 to FY 2005, all reoffense rates decreased over the fiscal years examined.

Apartment Living Program – with the exception of rearrest rates from FY 2005 to FY 2006, all reoffense rates decreased over the fiscal years examined.

Post-Dispositional Detention (with programs) – rearrest and reconviction rates increased during the time periods reported. Although juveniles placed into post-dispositional programs were not in the JCCs, a “reincarceration” rate is reported to illustrate the rate of their return to a secure setting.

